



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/575,219	06/02/2006	Karlheinz Ulrich Gerhard Hahn	102792-566 (11409P4 US)	6938
27389	7590	12/12/2007	EXAMINER	
NORRIS, MC LAUGHLIN & MARCUS			ANTHONY, JOSEPH DAVID	
875 THIRD AVE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
18TH FLOOR			1796	
NEW YORK, NY 10022			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/12/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/575,219	HAHN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Joseph D. Anthony	1796

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/10/06 as a preliminary amendment.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 18 and 19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-17, drawn to a water-soluble glass composition.

Group II, claim(s) 18-19, drawn to a method of inhibiting the corrosion of glassware in an automatic dishwashing machine.

The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, their shared corresponding special technical features do not define a contribution over the prior-art (i.e. the special technical feature(s) is/are anticipated in view of the following prior-art references. Izuki U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0220182A1 (see examples 1-2 and 7) or Ogino et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0018933A1 (see examples 1, 15 and 46) or Kasuga et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0138043A1 (see examples 1-6).

During a telephone conversation with Andrew N. Parfomak on 12/04/07 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-17. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 18-19 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one

or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 3-14 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Independent claim 1 is indefinite because the preamble of the claim states: "A zinc and bismuth containing, water-soluble glass composition comprising:" but the main body of the composition claim does not require that there be any zinc and bismuth present, since applicant uses the claim language of: "up to 40 mole% ZnO and up to 40 mole% Bi₂O₃". The modifying phrase "up to" is well known in patent law to encompass zero %.

As such, for the following prior-art rejections the broadest reasonable scope of applicant's pending claims will be taken. This means that applicant's independent claim 1, is to be read where zinc and bismuth are deemed to be only optional components for the claimed composition.

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers filed on 4/10/06 purporting to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) and they have been placed of record in the file. Attention is directed to the fact that the date for which foreign priority is claimed is not the date of the first two filed foreign applications acknowledged in the oath or declaration. After a through review of all three filed foreign applications it has been determined, by the Examiner, that only that last of the three filed foreign applications namely United Kingdom 0404470.7 filed 03/01/2004, contains sufficient disclosure to enable the presently claimed invention. It is clear that the first two filed foreign applications do not enable the presently claimed invention for a number of reasons such as for the concentration ranges of the various claimed components. As such, the effective foreign priority date of applicant's pending claims is deemed to be 03/01/2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-14 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hahn GB 2 372 500 A.

Hahn teaches water-soluble glass for inhibition of corrosion of glassware during automatic dishwashing. The compositions comprise 41-54 mole% P₂O₅, 10-30 mole % alkali metal oxide, up to 5 mole % SO₃ and up to 25 mole % ZnO. Optional components

such as Sb₂O₃, CaO, SiO₂, B₂O₃ etc. are also taught, see abstract. Applicant's claims are deemed to be anticipated over Examples 1-3 in Table 1.

Claims 1-7, 13-14 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Izuki U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0220182A1.

Izuki teaches optical glass and optical element made of the optical glass, See abstract, section [0011], section [0035], examples and claims. Applicant's claims are deemed to be anticipated over the examples, such as examples 1-2 and 7. Also see comparison example 4.

Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Izuki U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0220182A1.

Izuki has been described above and is deemed to anticipate applicant's claimed invention because the further addition of applicant's claimed refining is deemed to be at once envisaged by one having ordinary skill in the art in light of the disclosure of the reference, such as section 0011]. In the alternative, Izuki can be said to differ from applicant's claimed invention in that there is no direct teaching (i.e. by way of a specific example) to a composition that actually comprises applicant's claimed refining agent. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to use Izuki's disclosure of section [0011] as strong motivation to actually add such metal oxides as refining agents to applicant's claimed invention.

Claims 1-3, 5-14 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ogino et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0018933A1.

Ogino et al. teach optical glass, see abstract, sections [0019]-[0028], examples and claims. Applicant's claims are deemed to be anticipated over the examples such as examples 1, 15 and 46.

Claims 4 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Ogino et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0018933A1.

Ogino et al. has been described above and is deemed to anticipate applicant's claimed invention because applicant's specifically claimed concentration ranges are directly disclosed by the reference. In the alternative, Ogino et al. can be said to differ from applicant's claimed invention in that there is not a direct teaching (i.e. by way of a specific example) to a composition that actually has applicant's claimed components within the claimed concentration ranges. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to use the broadly disclosed concentration ranges of Ogino et al., see sections [0019]-[0021], as strong motivation to use concentration amounts that fall within applicant's claimed concentration ranges.

Claims 1-5, 13-14 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kasuga et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0138043A1.

Kasuga et al. teaches optical glass, perform for press molding and optical element, see abstract, examples in Tables 1-6 and claims. Applicant's claims are deemed to be anticipated over the examples in Tables 1-6.

Claims 6-7, 8-10 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Kasuga et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No.2004/0138043A1.

Kasuga et al. has been described above and is deemed to anticipate applicant's claimed invention since the addition of applicant's claimed refining agents and applicant's claimed concentration ranges are deemed to be at once envisaged. In the alternative, Kasuga et al differ from applicant's claimed invention in that there is no direct teaching (i.e. by way of specific examples) to compositions that comprise applicant's claimed refining agents and applicant's claimed concentrations ranges. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to use Kasuga et al.'s disclosure of section [0070] as strong motivation to actually add such metal oxides as refining agents to applicant's claimed invention. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to use the broadly disclosed concentration ranges of Kasuga et al., see sections [0013]-[0017], as strong motivation to use concentration amounts that fall within applicant's claimed concentration ranges.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent

and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1, 3-14, and 16-17 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8, 10 and 12-14 of copending Application No. 10/468,669. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because there is massive overlap in the claimed subject matter.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claims 1-9 and 13-17 provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-13 and 18-20 of copending Application No. 10/575,201. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the pending claims

are deemed to be a particular subset of the claims in said copending application. Also see the Table on page 12 of the specification of said copending application.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claims 1-9 and 13-17 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-13 of copending Application No. 10/558,211. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the pending claims are deemed to be a particular subset of the claims in said copending application.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Prior-Art Cited But Not Applied

Any prior-art reference which is cited on FORM PTO-892 but not applied, is cited only to show the general state of the prior-art at the time of applicant's invention.

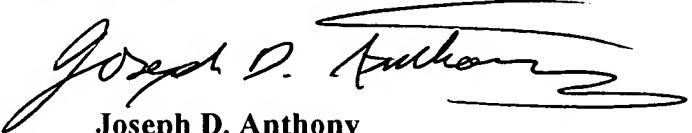
Examiner Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Joseph D. Anthony whose telephone number is (571) 272-1117. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon, can be reached on (571) 272-1498. The centralized FAX

Application/Control Number:
10/575,219
Art Unit: 1796

Page 11

machine number is (571) 273-8300. All other papers received by FAX will be treated as
Official communications and cannot be immediately handled by the Examiner.



Joseph D. Anthony
Primary Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1796

12/5/07